



A Quick Reference Guide to Products Issued By the National Weather Service during Hurricane Season



2011 Edition

Prepared by NWS-Tallahassee, Florida

Purpose: The purpose of this guide is to allow you to become familiar with the products issued during hurricane season by the National Hurricane Center and the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Tallahassee, Florida.

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Basic Tropical Definitions

Tropical Depression: A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds between 25 mph and 38 mph.

Tropical Storm: A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds between 39 mph and 73 mph. A cyclone with sustained winds reaching 39 mph will be named.

Hurricane: A tropical cyclone with maximum sustained winds of 74 mph or greater.

Post Tropical Cyclone: A former tropical cyclone. This generic term describes a cyclone that no longer possesses sufficient tropical characteristics. Two types of Post Tropical Cyclones are extratropical cyclones and remnant lows.

Extratropical Cyclone: A cyclone of any intensity that possesses frontal characteristics.

Remnant Low: An area of low pressure that no longer possesses convection near the center of circulation, as would be expected of a tropical cyclone. This low must also have sustained winds less than 39 mph.

Hurricane Watch: A hurricane watch means that hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within the next 48 hours.

Hurricane Warning: A hurricane warning means that hurricane conditions are expected within the warning area, generally within the next 36 hours.

Tropical Storm Watch: A tropical storm watch means that tropical storm conditions are possible within the watch area, generally within the next 48 hours.

Tropical Storm Warning: A tropical storm warning means that tropical storm conditions are expected within the warning area, generally within the next 36 hours.

Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale: A rating scale with five categories that is based on the maximum sustained wind speed of a tropical cyclone. The scale no longer is related to any predicted storm surge height.

Funnel Cloud: A rotating, funnel shaped cloud extending downward from a shower and thunderstorm base. A funnel cloud does not come in contact with the ground.

Tornado: A violently rotating column of air extending from the shower and thunderstorm base to the ground.

Storm Surge: The onshore rush of sea or lake water caused by the high winds associated with a landfalling cyclone and to a lesser extent by the low pressure of the storm.

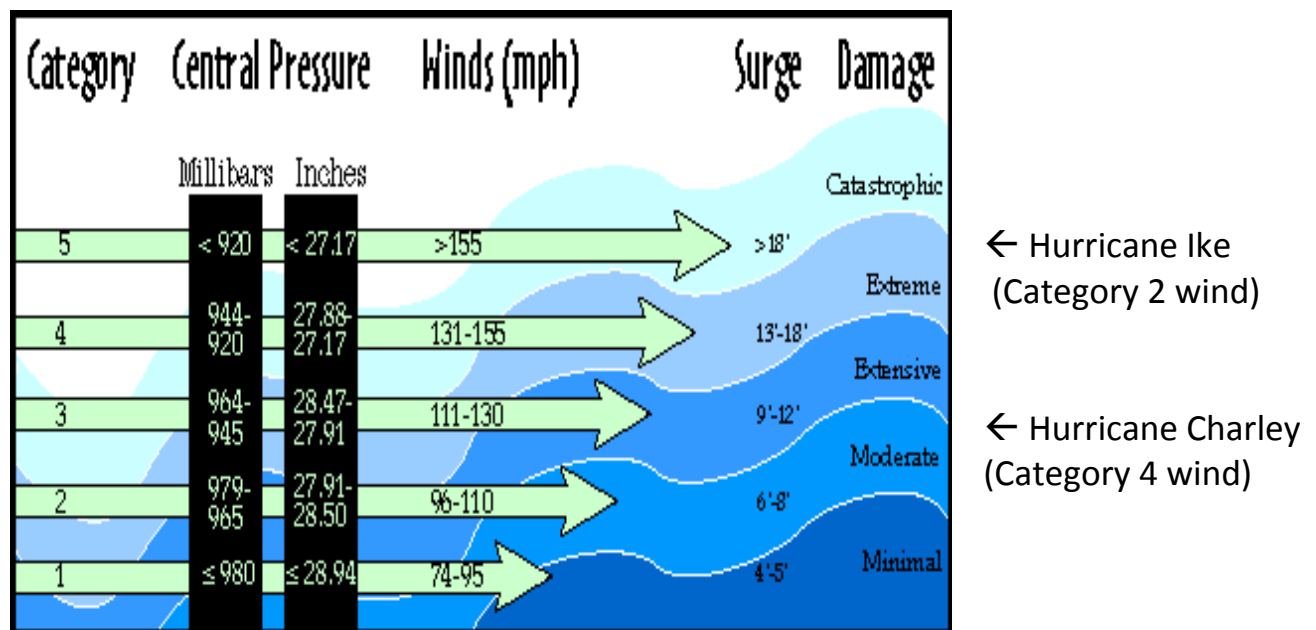
Coastal Areas: Areas along the coast susceptible to the affects of storm surge.

Saffir Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale

Category	Wind Speed (mph)
1	74-95
2	96-110
3	111-130
4	131-155
5	>156

Storm surge has been removed as a component from the Saffir Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Though storm surge was connected to the scale for many years, many recent storms and ongoing research shows that storm surge is more than just a function of wind. Factors like coastline shape, size of the storm, and even angle of approach to the coastline are all important factors for storm surge.

The most recent examples to explain the separation of storm surge from the scale is explained in the image below:



Hurricane Ike was a very large storm that spread tropical storm force winds across much of the central and western Gulf of Mexico. It produced a large and destructive storm surge across Galveston Island when making landfall.

In 2004, when Hurricane Charley made landfall as a strong category 4 hurricane in Southwest Florida, the storm surge heights were much lower than indicated for a storm with category 4 winds. This was primarily attributed to Charley being a smaller diameter storm and approaching the Southwest Florida coast at a more oblique angle.

While these are just two recent examples of how storm surge within tropical cyclones deviates from the previous scale, there are more that show why we must treat each landfalling storm differently when considering storm surge.

It is important to note that even with surge no longer being connected to the Saffir Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale, the National Weather Service will continue to provide predicted storm surge values in many of its products. Users can consult many of the products contained within this guide for more information on predicted storm surge, including the hurricane local statement and graphical hurricane local statement issued by the National Weather Service in Tallahassee.

2011 Atlantic Hurricane Season Storm Names

Arlene	Bret
Cindy	Don
Emily	Franklin
Gert	Harvey
Irene	Jose
Katia	Lee
Maria	Nate
Ophelia	Philippe
Rina	Sean
Tammy	Vince
Whitney	

Note that storm names outlined in white represent replacement names from the 2005 Atlantic Hurricane Season (Dennis, Katrina, Rita, and Wilma, respectively).

In the event that more than 21 named tropical cyclones occur in the Atlantic basin in a season, additional storms will take on names from the Greek alphabet starting with Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Delta, and so on. The use of the Greek Alphabet last occurred in 2005, when 28 named storms formed, ending with Tropical Storm Zeta, which formed on December 29th, 2005. Were a storm to form after January 1, 2012, it would take the first name on the 2012 list.

National Hurricane Center Products

Tropical Weather Outlook

Beginning on June 1 and continuing through November 30, the National Hurricane Center produces a tropical weather outlook that discusses the potential for the development of tropical systems in the Atlantic out to 48 hours. These outlooks are issued four times throughout the day. Probability of tropical cyclone formation is listed within this product in increments of 10 percent.

An example of this outlook appears below:

ABNT20 KNHC 011140
TWOAT
TROPICAL WEATHER OUTLOOK
NWS TPC/NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER MIAMI FL
800 AM EDT WED JAN 1 2009

FOR THE NORTH ATLANTIC...CARIBBEAN SEA AND THE GULF OF MEXICO...

THE AREA OF LOW PRESSURE ASSOCIATED WITH A TROPICAL WAVE LOCATED JUST EAST OF THE WINDWARD ISLANDS HAS BECOME A LITTLE BETTER ORGANIZED THIS MORNING...AND AN AIR FORCE RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT IS SCHEDULED TO INVESTIGATE THIS AREA THIS AFTERNOON. ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS APPEAR FAVORABLE FOR DEVELOPMENT DURING THE NEXT DAY OR TWO AS THE TROPICAL WAVE MOVES WESTWARD NEAR 15 TO 20 MPH. REGARDLESS OF WHETHER DEVELOPMENT OCCURS...THIS SYSTEM WILL LIKELY BRING SQUALLS TO THE WINDWARD ISLANDS DURING THE NEXT DAY OR SO. THERE IS A HIGH CHANCE...GREATER THAN 50 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

THE LARGE AREA OF CLOUDINESS BETWEEN BERMUDA AND NOVA SCOTIA IS ASSOCIATED WITH AN EXTRATROPICAL LOW. THERE IS A LOW CHANCE...LESS THAN 30 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

A LARGE AREA OF CLOUDINESS AND SHOWERS HAS DEVELOPED OVER THE NORTHEASTERN GULF OF MEXICO IN ASSOCIATION WITH AN OLD FRONTAL ZONE. SOME SLOW DEVELOPMENT OF THIS SYSTEM IS POSSIBLE DURING THE NEXT DAY OR TWO AS IT REMAINS NEARLY STATIONARY. THERE IS A MEDIUM CHANCE...30 TO 50 PERCENT...OF THIS SYSTEM BECOMING A TROPICAL CYCLONE DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

ELSEWHERE...TROPICAL CYCLONE FORMATION IS NOT EXPECTED DURING THE NEXT 48 HOURS.

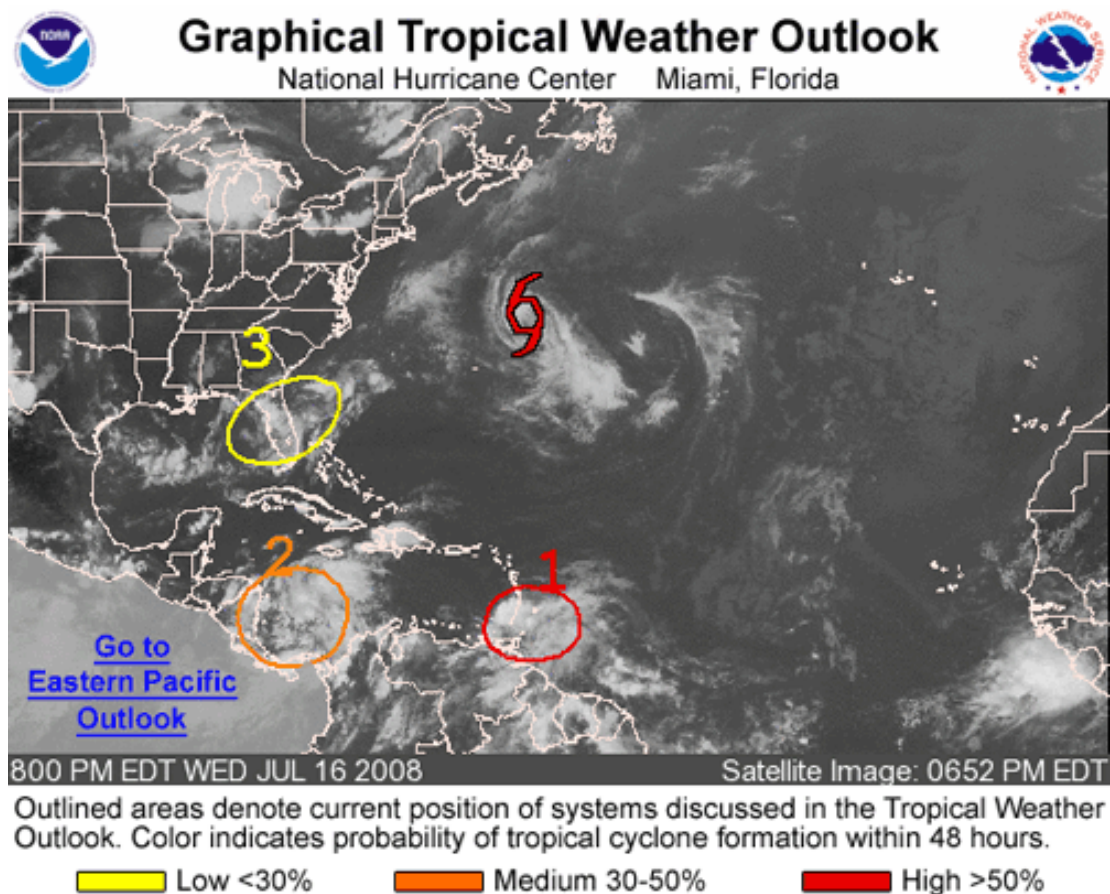
This product references the probability of development of an area of disturbed weather within the next 48 hours. These probability statements correspond to the graphical tropical weather outlook.

This product can be found on the NHC home page at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov>

This product is issued at 8 pm EDT, 2 am EDT, 8 am EDT, 2 pm EDT.

Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook:

This product complements the text version of the tropical weather outlook by showing graphically where areas of interest are located across the Atlantic. Moreover, this graphic also indicates, by the color of the circle around the disturbance, the likelihood it develops into a tropical depression or tropical storm. Finally, placing your mouse over a circle on the map will display important forecast information on the disturbance or active tropical system.



Special Tropical Weather Outlook

Special Tropical Weather Outlooks will be issued when significant changes require an update to a previously issued tropical weather outlook. In the past, these significant updates were issued as a Special Tropical Disturbance Statement. When a Special Tropical Weather Outlook is issued, it will also be accompanied by an update to the Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook.

The remaining products in this guide are only issued when there is an active tropical system in the Atlantic. When a tropical depression, tropical storm, or hurricane forms in the Atlantic, the National Hurricane Center issues numerous products on the current position and future movement of the tropical system.

These advisories on active tropical systems are issued routinely at 5 am EDT, 11 am EDT, 5 pm EDT, and 11 pm EDT. When systems are closer to land, intermediate advisories are issued half way between the routine advisory times.

Public Advisory

The tropical cyclone public advisory will change significantly for the 2010 season. This product will now be divided into five separate sections containing important information on the current and future path of the tropical cyclone. These five sections are:

- **Summary-** The summary section of the advisory includes a tabular outline of the current location, movement, and intensity of the tropical cyclone. It also includes the distance of the tropical cyclone from well known locations.
- **Watches and Warnings-** When watches or warnings are in effect for any portion of the Atlantic, they will be included in this section. Any new watches or warnings issued or changes made to any already in effect, will be listed at the top of this section. A summary of all watches and warnings in effect will then be included below.
- **Discussion and 48 hour outlook –** This section of the public advisory repeats the current location and movement of the tropical cyclone and includes a discussion on the expected movement of the system over the

next 48 hours. The discussion will also focus on the current intensity of the system and the potential for intensification over the next 48 hours. If any recent wind observations are available from land-based stations, they will be included in this section.

- **Hazards Affecting Land** – Impacts from storm surge, wind, rainfall and tornadoes will be included in this section. Information will be provided in a general overview format with more focus given to storm surge impacts.
- **Next Advisory** – This section will list the time of the next advisory issued by the National Hurricane Center.

An example of the new public advisory can be found at this website:

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tcp_example.shtml

Tropical Cyclone Forecast and Advisory (Marine Advisory)

The Tropical Cyclone Forecast/Advisory contains a list of all current watches and warnings on a tropical or subtropical cyclone, as well as the current latitude and longitude coordinates, intensity, and system motion. The advisory contains forecasts of the cyclone positions, intensities, and wind radii for 12, 24, 36, 48, and 72 hours from the current synoptic time. The advisory may also include information on any pertinent storm tides associated with the cyclone. All wind speeds in the forecast advisory are given in knots (nautical miles per hour).

For an example of this product, visit the following website:

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/help/tcm.shtml>

Tropical Cyclone Discussion

The Tropical Cyclone Discussion explains the reasoning behind the forecast for a tropical or subtropical cyclone. It includes a table of the forecast track and intensity. These products are very similar to area forecast discussions issued by local weather offices. They may include meteorological terminology or discussion of available model data.

You can find an example of this product at the following website:

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tcd_example.shtml

Tropical Cyclone Wind Speed Probabilities

The Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probabilities text product provides probabilities, in percent, of sustained wind speeds equal to or exceeding 34-, 50-, and 64-knot wind speed thresholds. These wind speed probabilities are based on the track, intensity, and wind structure forecasts and uncertainties from the National Hurricane Center and are computed for coastal and inland cities as well as offshore locations (e.g., buoys). Two types of probability values are produced in this text product: cumulative probabilities of occurrence, and individual period probabilities of onset.

Cumulative probabilities are provided in the text product for the following time periods: 0-12 hours, 0-24 hours, 0-36 hours, 0-48 hours, 0-72 hours, 0-96 hours, and 0-120 hours (0-5 days). These cumulative probabilities indicate the overall chances that the stated wind speed will **occur** at each location during the period between hour 0 (the beginning of the forecast) and each listed forecast hour.

Individual period probabilities are provided for each of the following time intervals: 0-12 hours, 12-24 hours, 24-36 hours, 36-48 hours, 48-72 hours, 72-96 hours, and 96-120 hours. These individual period probabilities indicate the chances that the stated wind speed will **start** during each individual period at each location. Cumulative probabilities through each forecast time period are also just the sum of the individual period probabilities up to that time.

In other words, cumulative probabilities tell decision-makers the chances that the event will happen at all. The individual period probabilities tell decision-makers when the event is most likely to start.

When reading this product you will see a description key that looks something like this:

II. WIND SPEED PROBABILITY TABLE FOR SPECIFIC LOCATIONS

CHANCES OF SUSTAINED (1-MINUTE AVERAGE) WIND SPEEDS OF AT LEAST

...34 KT (39 MPH... 63 KPH)...

...50 KT (58 MPH... 93 KPH)...

...64 KT (74 MPH...119 KPH)...

FOR LOCATIONS AND TIME PERIODS DURING THE NEXT 5 DAYS

PROBABILITIES FOR LOCATIONS ARE GIVEN AS IP(CP) WHERE

IP IS THE PROBABILITY OF THE EVENT BEGINNING DURING

AN INDIVIDUAL TIME PERIOD (INDIVIDUAL PROBABILITY)

(CP) IS THE PROBABILITY OF THE EVENT OCCURRING BETWEEN

18Z WED AND THE FORECAST HOUR (CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY)

PROBABILITIES ARE GIVEN IN PERCENT

X INDICATES PROBABILITIES LESS THAN 1 PERCENT

PROBABILITIES FOR 34 KT AND 50 KT ARE SHOWN AT A GIVEN LOCATION WHEN

THE 5-DAY CUMULATIVE PROBABILITY IS AT LEAST 3 PERCENT.

PROBABILITIES FOR 64 KT ARE SHOWN WHEN THE 5-DAY CUMULATIVE

This key is used to understand the probabilities given for various sites. On the next page, an example of this product is explained.

- - - - WIND SPEED PROBABILITIES FOR SELECTED LOCATIONS - - - -																
TIME PERIODS		FROM 18Z WED		FROM 06Z THU		FROM 18Z THU		FROM 06Z FRI		FROM 18Z FRI		FROM 18Z SAT		FROM 18Z SUN		
		TO 06Z THU		TO 18Z THU		TO 06Z FRI		TO 18Z FRI		TO 18Z SAT		TO 18Z SUN		TO 18Z MON		
		FORECAST HOUR		(12)		(24)		(36)		(48)		(72)		(96)		(120)
LOCATION		KT														
TALLAHASSEE	FL	34	X	3 (3)		4 (7)		5 (12)		3 (15)		1 (16)		X (16)		
ST MARKS	FL	34	X	3 (3)		5 (8)		4 (12)		2 (14)		2 (16)		X (16)		
APALACHICOLA		34	2	7 (9)		7 (16)		4 (20)		2 (22)		1 (23)		X (23)		
APALACHICOLA		50	X	X (X)		1 (1)		X (4)		6 (10)		4 (14)		1 (15)		
APALACHICOLA		64	X	X (X)		1 (1)		2 (3)		4 (7)		2 (9)		X (9)		

In this example given above, the probability that Tallahassee receives 34 knot winds in the next 5 days is 16% (red box). However, Tallahassee has a probability of 5% of receiving tropical storm force winds between 06z (2 am EDT) and 18z (2 pm EDT) Friday (green box). Similarly, the cumulative probability of tropical storm force winds at Apalachicola for the next five days is 23%. The probability that Apalachicola receives tropical storm force winds between 06z Friday (2 am EDT) to 18z Friday (2 pm EDT) is 4%.

Probabilities for a particular location and speed are provided only when the 120-hour (5-day) cumulative probability is at least 2.5% (rounded to 3%). Locations are listed in geographic order, and data for all wind speeds (with high enough probabilities) at one location are grouped together.

You can see an example of this product at the following link:

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pws_example.shtml

Special Tropical Cyclone Update

Tropical Cyclone Updates are brief statements issued instead of or preceding special advisories to inform of significant changes in a tropical cyclone or to post or cancel watches or warnings. This product is issued on an as needed basis.

You can see an example of this product at the following link:

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tcu_example.shtml

Tropical Cyclone Position Estimate

Tropical Cyclone Position Estimates are issued between intermediate advisories whenever a tropical cyclone with a well-defined center is within 200 nautical miles of land-based radar in the United States. These estimates give the center location in map coordinates and distance and direction from a well-known point.

You can see an example of this product at the following link:

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tce_example.shtml

Tropical Cyclone Valid Time Event Code

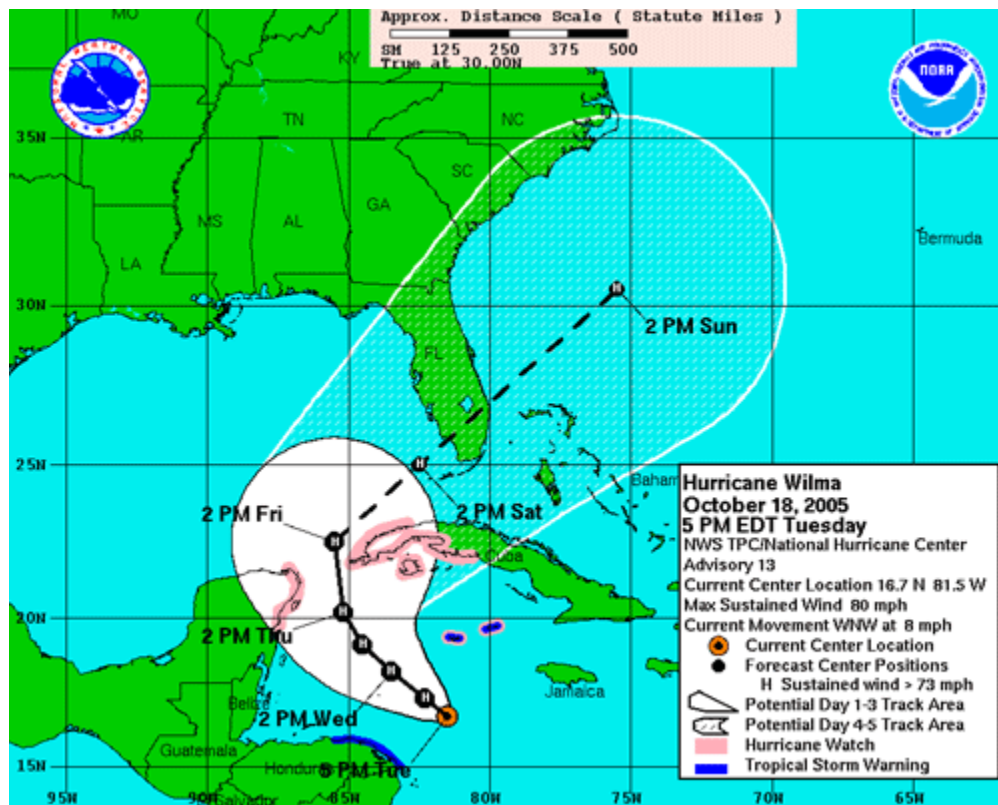
The Tropical Cyclone Watch/Warning text product (TCV) is based upon the Valid Time Event Code (VTEC). It summarizes all new, continued, and canceled tropical cyclone watches and warnings issued by the National Hurricane Center (NHC) for the U.S. Atlantic and Gulf coasts, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands.

You can see an example of this product at the following link:

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/tcv_example.shtml

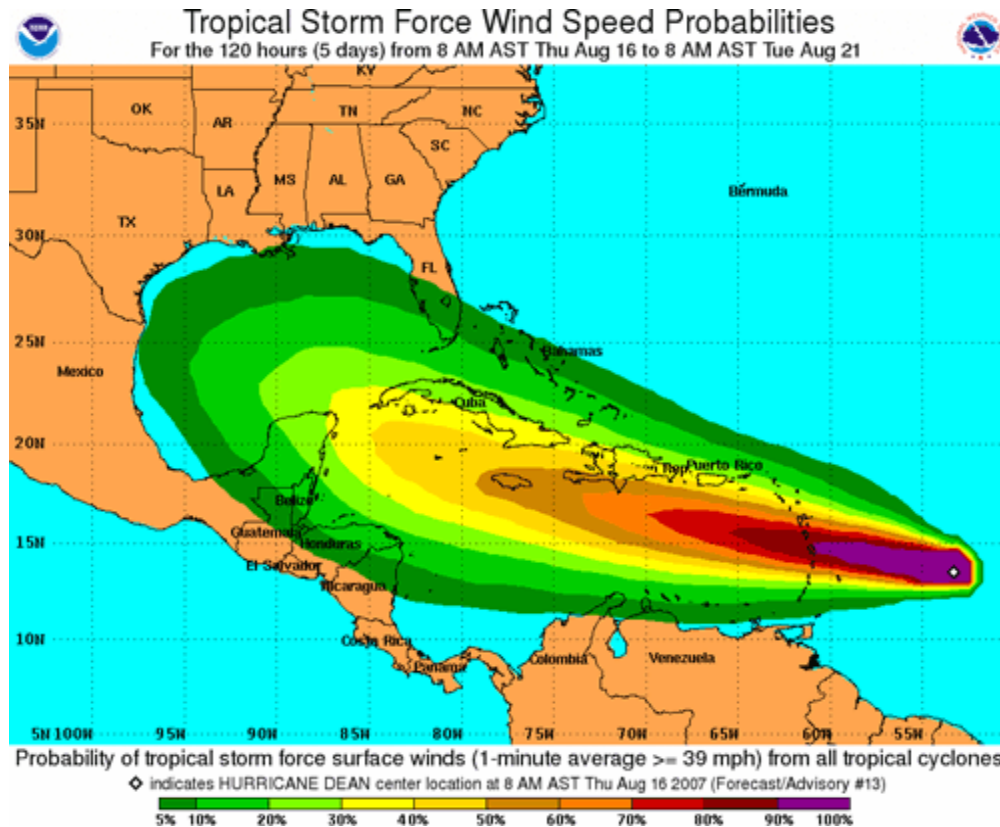
The following graphical products are found on the home page of the National Hurricane Center whenever advisories are being issued on a tropical cyclone.

Tropical Cyclone Track Forecast Cone and Watches/Warnings



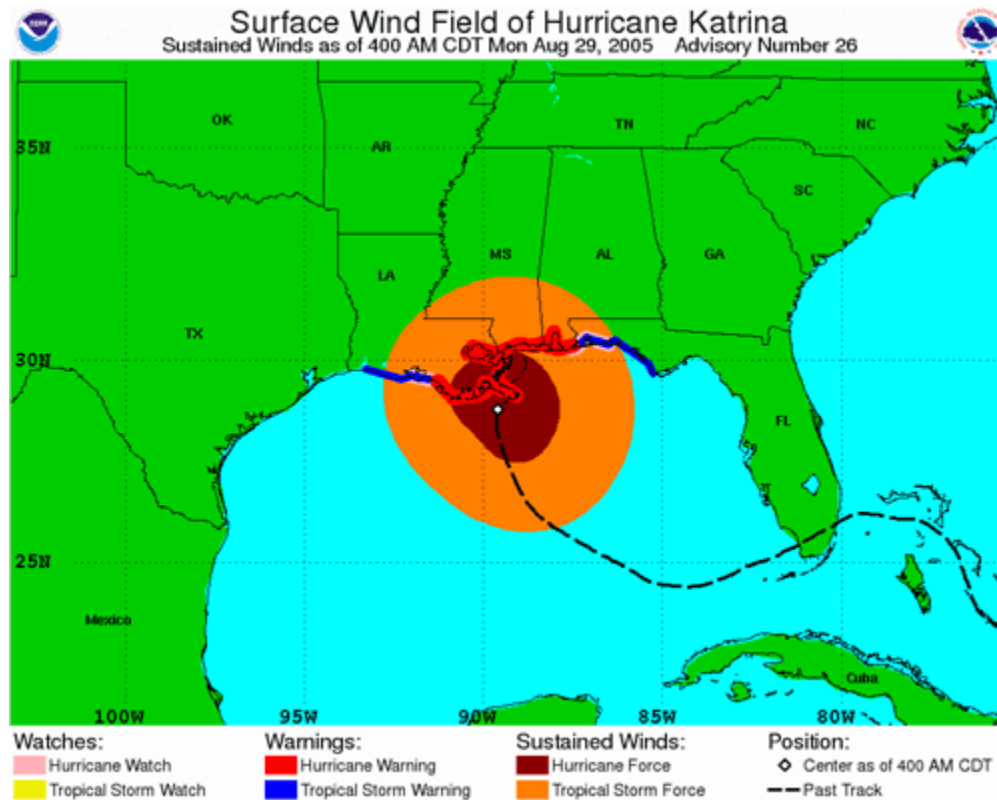
This graphic is created with each advisory issued by the National Hurricane Center. It includes the three day forecast cone (solid white area) and the four to five day forecast cone (dashed white area). Any watches or warnings that are in effect for a landmass are also included on this map. Remember, do not focus on the black line in the center of the cone. A tropical cyclone is not a point. Rather, the effects of a tropical cyclone can spread hundreds of miles from the center.

Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Speed Probabilities



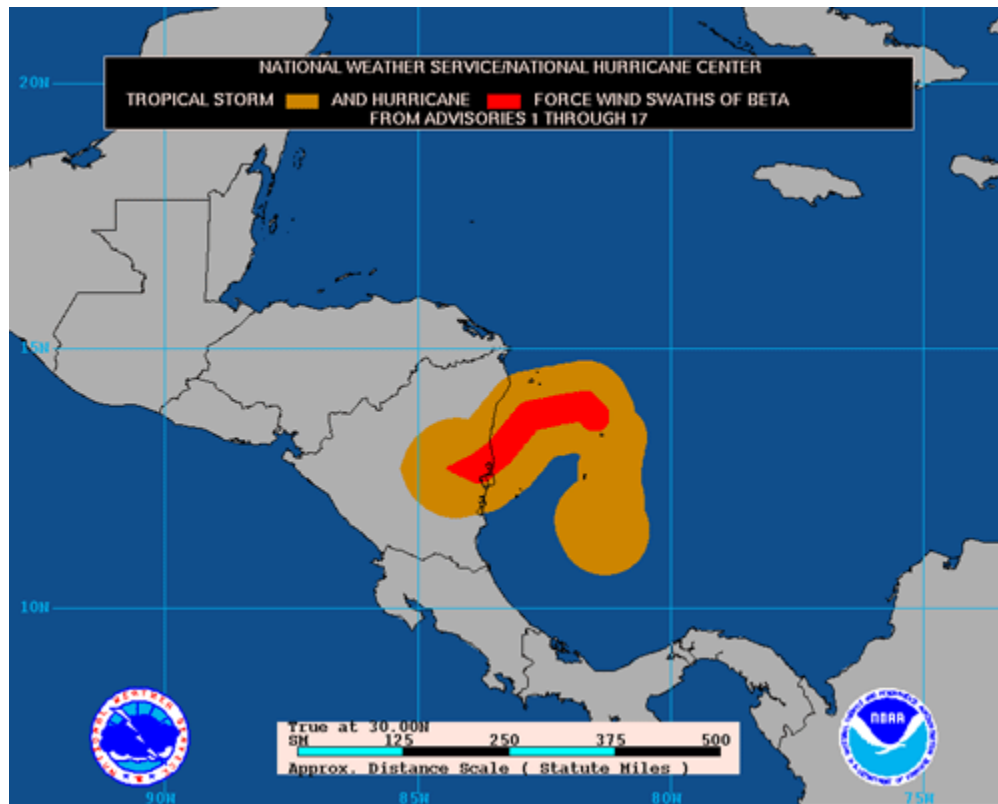
This image is the graphical counterpart to the Tropical Cyclone Wind Speed Probabilities Table. This example graphic above displays the probability that a point will receive tropical storm force winds. Three different graphics are created. This image, for tropical storm force winds, a second image for winds in excess of 50 knots (58 mph), and a third image for hurricane force winds in excess of 64 knots (74 mph).

Tropical Cyclone Surface Wind Field



This graphical product is a summary of the current conditions associated with a tropical cyclone. In this example, the current location of Hurricane Katrina is indicated with the white diamond. Winds of tropical storm and hurricane force are indicated by the shaded areas. Additionally, areas under tropical storm or hurricane watches and warnings are displayed.

Cumulative Wind History



This graphic shows how the size of the storm has changed, and the areas potentially affected so far by sustained winds of tropical storm force (in orange) and hurricane force (in red). Because the wind radii shown are based on the maximum extent of tropical storm or hurricane force winds, not all areas may have experienced these winds.

Maximum 1-minute Wind Speed Probability Table



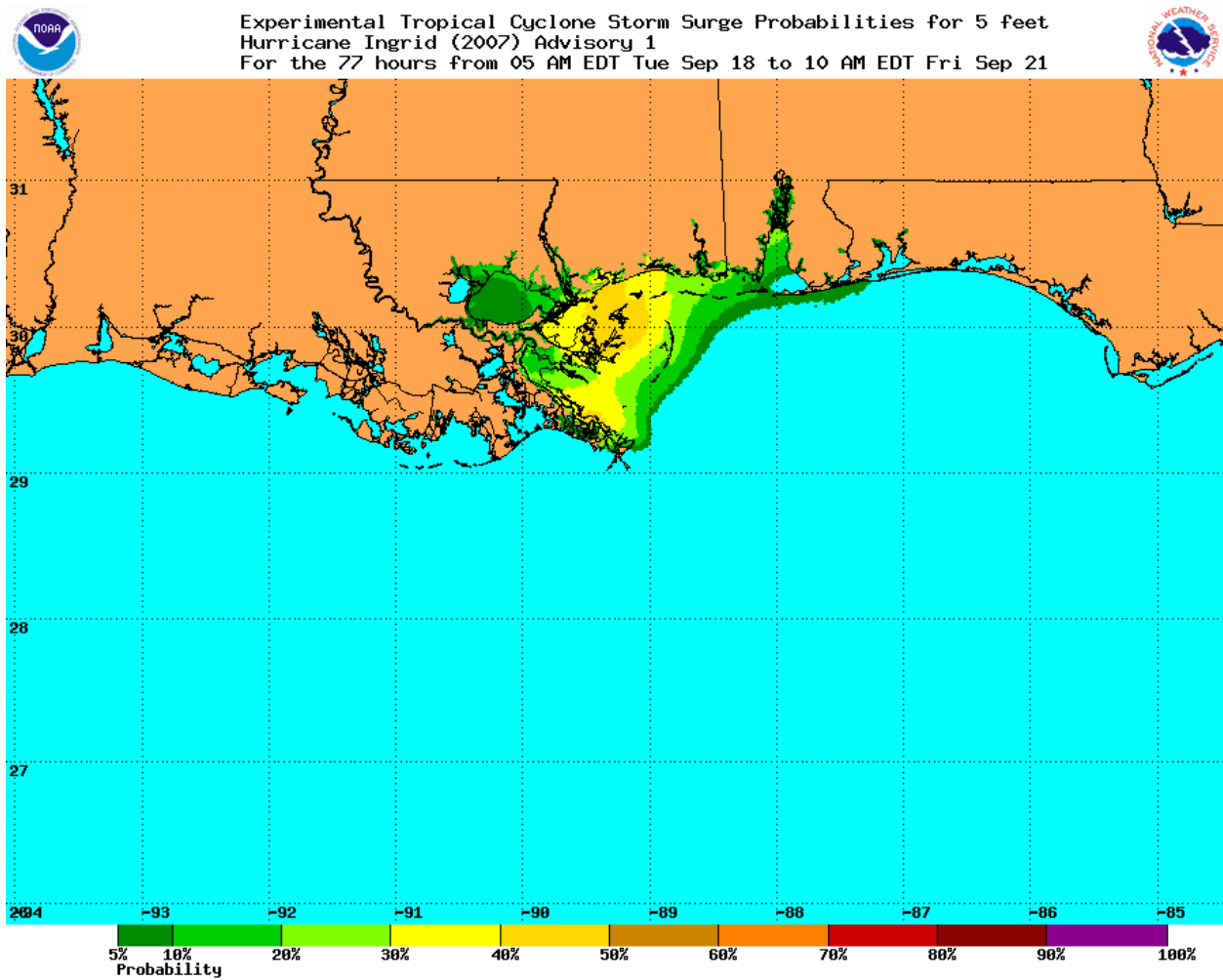
Intensity (Maximum Wind Speed) Probability Table
Tropical Storm Test Advisory Number 1
4:00 PM CDT Apr 16 2008



Wind Range (mph)	Forecast Time						
	12 hour for 1 AM Thu	24 hour for 1 PM Thu	36 hour for 1 AM Fri	48 hour for 1 PM Fri	72 hour for 1 PM Sat	96 hour for 1 PM Sun	120 hour for 1 PM Mon
Dissipated	<1%	<1%	1%	3%	25%	54%	58%
Tropical Depression (<39)	1%	2%	9%	12%	33%	26%	18%
Tropical Storm (39-73)	86%	49%	53%	59%	34%	15%	15%
Hurricane (all categories)	13%	50%	37%	27%	8%	5%	10%
-- Category 1 (74-95)	12%	44%	31%	21%	6%	3%	7%
-- Category 2 (96-110)	1%	5%	3%	4%	1%	1%	2%
-- Category 3 (111-130)	<1%	1%	2%	2%	<1%	<1%	1%
-- Category 4 (131-155)	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
-- Category 5 (>155)	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Forecast Maximum Wind	65 mph	75 mph	75 mph	65 mph	40 mph	15 mph	5 mph

The table shows the probability that the maximum sustained surface wind speed of the tropical cyclone will be within various intensity ranges as well as the five categories on the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale during the next 120 hours. These probabilities apply to the maximum sustained surface wind associated with the cyclone, and not winds that could occur at specific locations.

Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge Probabilities



The Tropical Cyclone Storm Surge Probabilities product consists of a graphic that shows probabilities, in percentage, of a storm surge from a tropical storm or hurricane that will exceed a particular value. For example, in the image shown above, the probability of a storm surge exceeding 5 feet is shown. The areas in yellow indicate the probability of exceeding 5 feet is between 40 to 50 percent. This product produces probability of storm surge at one foot intervals from two feet to 25 feet.

This product is produced by using an ensemble of SLOSH runs created by the National Hurricane Center, and is available whenever a hurricane watch or hurricane warning is in effect for the continental U.S.

National Weather Service in Tallahassee, Florida Products

Hurricane Local Statement

When a tropical storm or hurricane watch has been issued by the National Hurricane Center, NWS Tallahassee will begin issuing Tropical Storm or Hurricane Local Statements. This particular product is designed to inform local decision makers, the media, and public on the expected impacts from the approaching storm. This product is issued in a segmented format. This means that only portions of the product apply to certain counties. Within each segment are a series of section headers which explain preparedness actions that should be taken along with a detailed description of the impacts from the storm in your area.

Starting with the 2011 Atlantic Hurricane Season, tropical storm and hurricane watches and warnings will be issued for all counties in the Tallahassee forecast area. This is a change from previous seasons, when tropical storm or hurricane **wind** watches or warnings would be issued for non-coastal counties.

An example of the HLS appears below:

```
URGENT - IMMEDIATE BROADCAST REQUESTED
HURRICANE DANICA LOCAL STATEMENT
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TALLAHASSEE FL
545 PM EDT TUE JUL 26 2011
```

```
.NEW INFORMATION...
```

```
.AREAS AFFECTED...
```

```
.WATCHES/WARNINGS...
```

```
.STORM INFORMATION...
```

```
.SITUATION OVERVIEW...
```

```
.PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...
PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...
```

```
&&
```

```
.NEXT UPDATE...
```

This is the main overview segment that is applicable to any portion of the Tallahassee forecast area.

ALZ065>069-FLZ007>018-026>028-108-112-114-115-118-127-128-
GAZ120>126-142>145-155>158-GMZ730-750-755-765-770-775-210815-
/O.CON.KTAE.HU.W.1021.000000T0000Z-000000T0000Z/
COFFEE-DALE-HENRY-GENEVA-HOUSTON-INLAND WALTON-CENTRAL WALTON-
HOLMES-WASHINGTON-JACKSON-INLAND BAY-CALHOUN-INLAND GULF-
INLAND FRANKLIN-GADSDEN-LEON-INLAND JEFFERSON-LIBERTY-
INLAND WAKULLA-INLAND TAYLOR-SOUTH WALTON-COASTAL BAY-
COASTAL GULF-COASTAL FRANKLIN-COASTAL JEFFERSON-COASTAL WAKULLA-
COASTAL TAYLOR-QUITMAN-CLAY-RANDOLPH-TERRELL-DOUGHERTY-LEE-EARLY-
MILLER-BAKER-MITCHELL-SEMINOLE-DECATUR-GRADY-THOMAS-APALACHEE BAY-
COASTAL WATERS FROM APALACHICOLA TO DESTIN FL OUT 20 NM-
COASTAL WATERS FROM OCHLOCKONEE RIVER TO APALACHICOLA FL OUT TO
20 NM-
COASTAL WATERS FROM SUWANNEE RIVER TO KEATON BEACH OUT 20 NM-
WATERS FROM APALACHICOLA TO DESTIN FL FROM 20 TO 60 NM-
WATERS FROM SUWANNEE RIVER TO APALACHICOLA FL FROM 20 TO 60 NM-
545 PM EDT TUE JUL 26 2011 /445 PM CDT TUE JUL 26 2011/

...HURRICANE WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT...

...PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...
PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS...

&&

...WINDS...

...STORM SURGE AND STORM TIDE...

...INLAND FLOODING...

...TORNADOES...

\$\$

This segment applies to the counties listed above. This segment will detail specific impacts expected in the listed counties.

Hurricane local statements include headlines for any tropical watches or warnings that may be in effect. These headlines are found right below the listing of counties as indicated in the above example.

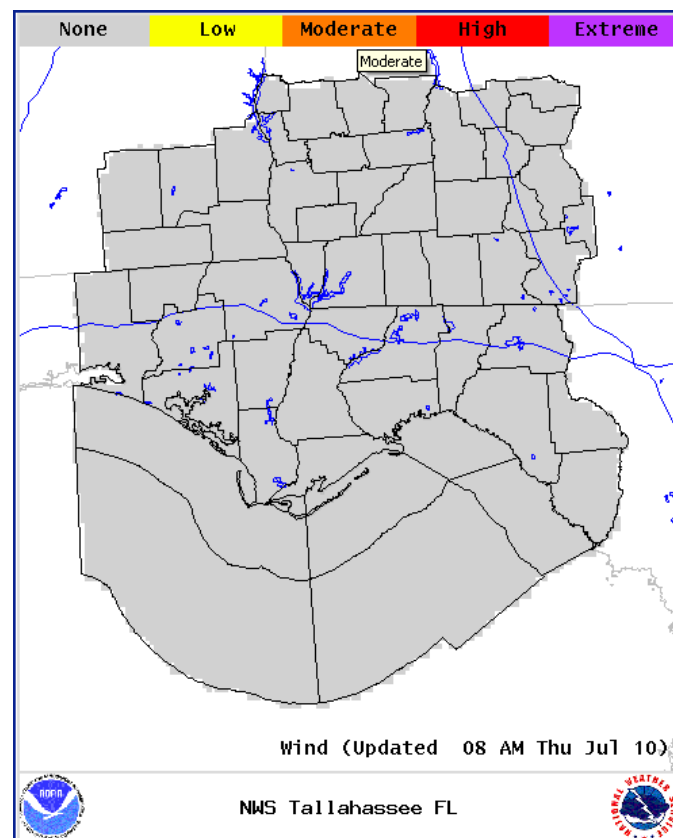
Hurricane Local Statements are an excellent resource to gain information specific to your area. Hurricane Local Statements are issued at least every six hours when a tropical storm or hurricane watch or warning is in effect for the Tallahassee County Warning Area. These statements may be updated more frequently when the tropical system gets closer to land.

Graphical Hurricane Local Statement

Continuing into 2011, NWS-Tallahassee will issue a graphical version of the Hurricane Local Statement. This graphical version visually depicts the impact level to the Tallahassee County Warning Area from four specific threats. These are: Winds, Tornadoes, Inland Flood, and Coastal Flood. Impacts from each of these threats are ranked on the following scale: None, Low, Moderate, High, and Extreme. Each of these rankings has a specific description available that has been tailored to our local area.

The graphical hurricane local statement for Tallahassee can be found by going to: http://www.weather.gov/ghls/php/ghls_index.php?sid=TAE

From this main page, you can select an individual hazard map to see a larger version complete with the associated impact description. For example, if you click on the map for wind, you will see the wind impact map for the Tallahassee County Warning Area. By clicking on the risk level bar across the top of the map, you will then see the associated impact description for each risk category. A sample of the wind image appears below.



Extreme Wind Warning

To alert the population to the onset of extremely dangerous winds associated with the core of a landfalling major hurricane, the National Weather Service will issue an extreme wind warning. This product is relatively new. It initially started as a strongly worded tornado warning as a way of alerting residents of Central Florida about the approach of the dangerous winds associated with the core of Hurricane Charley in 2004. Since that time, the National Weather Service has created the extreme wind warning product to serve exclusively for the notification of these destructive winds.

This warning is only issued under the following conditions:

1. The tropical cyclone is a category 3 or greater on the Saffir Simpson hurricane scale as designated by the National Hurricane Center.
2. Sustained tropical cyclone surface winds of 100 knots (115 mph) or greater are occurring or are expected to occur within one hour.

This product will generally be issued up to one hour before the onset of these winds, and may be valid for up to three hours. This product has priority dissemination on NOAA Weather Radio and across the EAS network.

An example of this product appears on the next page.

Extreme Wind Warning Example:

WFUS52 KTAE 311604
EWWTAE
FLC008-FLC012-FLC014
/O.NEW.KTAE.EW.W.0001.070531T11604Z-070531T1900Z/

BULLETIN - EAS ACTIVATION REQUESTED
EXTREME WIND WARNING
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE TALLAHASSEE FL
1104 AM CDT THU MAY 31 2004

THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE IN TALLAHASSEE HAS ISSUED AN

...TEST...TEST...THIS IS ONLY A TEST...

* EXTREME WIND WARNING FOR THE ONSET OF SUSTAINED WINDS OF 115 MPH OR GREATER
FOR...

BAY COUNTY IN THE PANHANDLE OF FLORIDA
GULF COUNTY IN THE PANHANDLE OF FLORIDA
SOUTHEASTERN WALTON COUNTY IN THE PANHANDLE OF FLORIDA

* UNTIL 200 PM CDT

* AT 1100 AM CDT...NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE DOPPLER RADAR INDICATED EXTREME
WINDS...ASSOCIATED WITH THE EYEWALL OF HURRICANE AMY...WERE MOVING ONSHORE
NEAR PANAMA CITY BEACH. SUSTAINED WINDS IN EXCESS OF 135 MPH...CAPABLE OF
PRODUCING WIDESPREAD DESTRUCTION...CAN BE EXPECTED AS THE EYEWALL PASSES
OVERHEAD. MOVEMENT WAS NORTH NORTHEAST AT 10 MPH.

* THESE EXTREME WINDS WILL AFFECT...
CENTRAL BAY COUNTY BY 1200 PM CDT...
WESTERN GULF COUNTY BY 1200 PM CDT...

TAKE COVER NOW! TREAT THESE IMMINENT EXTREME WINDS AS IF A TORNADO WAS
APPROACHING AND MOVE IMMEDIATELY TO THE SAFE ROOM IN YOUR SHELTER...OR
INNERMOST ROOM AWAY FROM WINDOWS. TAKE ACTION NOW TO PROTECT YOUR LIFE!

LAT...LON 3044 8552 3036 8533 3057 8517 3067 8543

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38-GODSEY

Terms of Uncertainty – Forecasts

To provide enhanced visibility of potential hazards from tropical systems, NWS forecasts will continue to include probabilistic terminology related to tropical storm or hurricane effects in a region. Forecasts from NWS Tallahassee utilize wind speed products from the National Hurricane Center to provide users with an assessment of the likelihood of tropical storm or hurricane impacts, even at long ranges.

Depending on the confidence in the overall forecast and likelihood of effects from a tropical system, forecasts from NWS will contain the following phrases as tropical systems near the region:

- For longer range or low probability forecasts:
 - Hurricane Conditions Possible
 - Tropical Storm Conditions Possible
- For shorter range or higher probability forecasts:
 - Hurricane Conditions Expected
 - Tropical Conditions Expected
- For immediate term ongoing tropical events:
 - Hurricane Conditions
 - Tropical Storm Conditions










Forecasts containing the word “possible” may appear more frequently in forecasts, especially at longer time ranges. “Expected” wording is primarily confined to forecasts issued for the next 36 hours. Categorical wording, or terminology like, “Hurricane Conditions,” will only appear during the first 12 hours of the forecast.

It should be noted that these terms will also appear on the point and click forecast pages many people use to access forecast data from NWS Tallahassee. Any example of how these terms will appear on the next page.

Terms of Uncertainty Point and Click Example (South Florida):

26.85N -80.08W **Forecast Valid:** 11 am EDT Sep 2, 2004-6pm EDT Sep 8, 2004

Forecast at a Glance

Today	Tonight	Labor Day	Friday Night	Saturday	Saturday Night	Sunday	Sunday Night	Monday
								
Chance Tstms Hi 85°F	Chance Tstms Lo 75°F	Trop. Storm Conditions Expected Hi 85°F	Hurricane Conditions Expected Lo 75°F	Hurricane Conditions Possible Hi 85°F	Hurricane Conditions Possible Lo 75°F	Trop. Storm Conditions Possible Hi 85°F	Chance Tstms Lo 75°F	Chance Tstms Hi 85°F

Detailed 7-day Forecast

Today: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 85. Windy, with a north wind around 23 mph, with gusts as high as 32 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Tonight: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75. Windy, with a north wind around 23 mph, with gusts as high as 32 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Labor Day: Tropical storm conditions expected, with hurricane conditions possible. Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 85. North wind 25 to 30 mph, with gusts as high as 41 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Friday Night: Hurricane conditions expected. Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75. North wind 45 to 55 mph increasing to between 40 and 60 mph. Winds could gust as high as 80 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Saturday: Hurricane conditions possible. Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 85. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Saturday Night: Hurricane conditions possible. Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Sunday: Tropical storm conditions possible. Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 85. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Sunday Night: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around 75. Windy, with a north wind around 23 mph, with gusts as high as 32 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

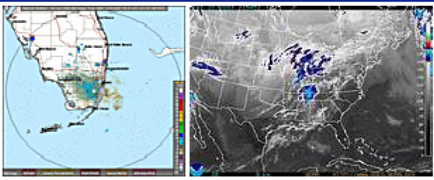
Monday: Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a high near 85. Windy, with a north wind around 23 mph, with gusts as high as 32 mph. Chance of precipitation is 50%.

Current Conditions

West Palm Beach, Palm Beach International Airport
Lat: 26.68 Lon: -80.12 Elev:
Not a Current Observation


Humidity:	NULL
Wind Speed:	NULL
Barometer:	NULL
Dewpoint:	NULL
Visibility:	NULL
More Local Wx:	3 Day History:

Radar and Satellite Images



Detailed Point Forecast

Click Map for Forecast

 Coastal Palm Beach and surrounding areas. Click for forecast.

Done

Note that in this image at left, the “forecast at glance” icons across the top of the page reflect the probabilistic phrasing with corresponding images.

Users are encouraged to consult the detailed forecast section for more detail on the overall impacts on the approaching system.